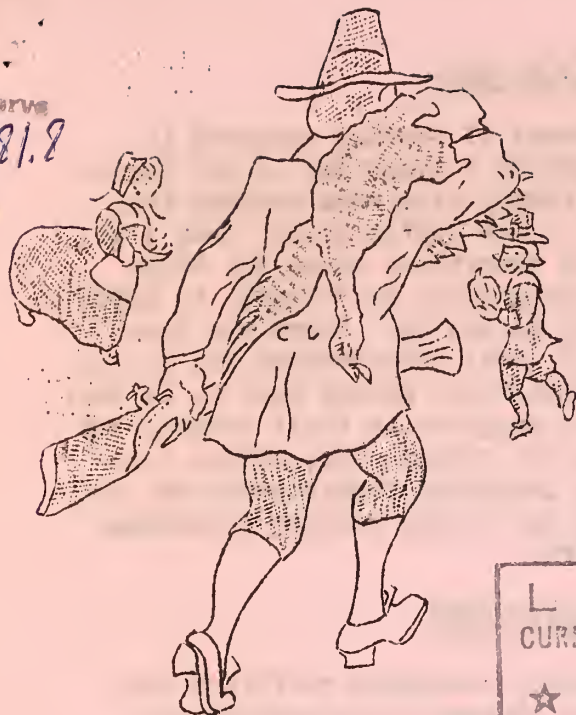


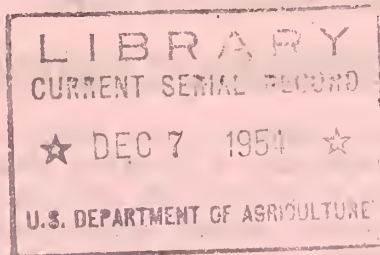
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DELAWARE ASC FARM NEWS



No. 10

November 12, 1954

ASC COMMITTEES TO BE ELECTED BY MAIL

Delaware farmers will have an opportunity to cast their ballots by mail for ASC committeemen to serve in 1955. Ballots will be mailed to all farmers in late November. To be counted, the ballots must be returned to the county office by close of business December 3, 1954, or postmarked not later than midnight that same day.

Under revised regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, ASC elections are being conducted for the first time under the supervision of county and community Election Boards. The Election Board in each county consists of the county agent, as chairman, the FHA supervisor serving the county, the SCS Technician, and the county heads of the Farm Bureau and Grange. It is the responsibility of the County Election Board to appoint a Community Election Board of eligible farmers in each ASC community. The community election boards serve as nominating committees to name a panel of not less than 10 farmers in each community who are eligible for election as ASC committeemen. A list of the persons nominated will be posted in the county office and in each community. Additional nominees may be added on the basis of a petition signed by 10 eligible farmers in the community and delivered to the chairman of the Community Election Board not later than November 22, 1954. In addition, each voter may write in the name of any candidate of his choice which does not appear on the ballot.

Community election committees will meet in the county ASC office, Monday, December 6, to open the ballots and determine the successful candidates. In Kent and Sussex counties, delegates to the county convention (who are also chairmen of community committees) will meet at the county ASC offices during the week of December 6 to elect a county committee. In New Castle County, which constitutes only one ASC community for 1955, the community committee, as elected by farmer vote, automatically becomes the county committee.

FEWER ASC COMMUNITIES FOR 1955

In a move designed to improve the effectiveness of service rendered to farmers, the State committee last month approved a reduction in the number of ASC communities. In Sussex County, the communities were reduced from 29 to 5; in Kent County, from 18 to 5; and in New Castle County from 7 to 1. These changes were recommended by county committees after the State committee suggested that present community boundaries be reviewed to determine whether a more efficient grouping might be set up. There was considerable concern at the lack of training of local committeemen and it was believed that a smaller number of committeemen might permit them to be more adequately trained and better informed about programs in their communities. The present is an especially favorable time for putting into effect a reduction in number of communities since many incumbent committeemen are not eligible for service in 1955 because of the new ruling barring continuous service for more than three consecutive years.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMITTEEMEN

A policy statement recently issued by the State committee reaffirms the policy of the Secretary regarding a division between policy-making and policy-executing functions in county ASC offices. Effective January 1, 1955, with incoming committees, county committeemen cannot serve as office or field employees. Instead, the county committee will serve as a board of directors responsible for policy making. County office managers employed by and responsible to the county committee will carry out the policy decisions of the committee and be responsible to it for all administrative details. Community committeemen will be responsible for assisting the county committee in developing programs and informing farmers about the provisions of current programs. Community committeemen will not be required to do field work or to participate in farm surveys; however, in those cases where the committeemen wish such employment, they will be given an opportunity for it.

The State committee urges that no person accept the nomination as a committeeman unless he is prepared to accept the responsibilities and to perform to the best of his ability the duties that go with the position. However, it is emphasized that the amount of time required generally will not be more than that which most busy farmers could arrange to spend at the job. Community committeemen will be expected to serve from 6 to 12 days a year, much of which will be attending educational and training meetings. County committees will have regular meetings at least monthly and more often as required; however, regular members of the county committee will be limited to a maximum of 30 days service each year with the chairman permitted up to 60 days.

FREE AGRICULTURE IS GOAL, SAYS BENSON

To strengthen a free, productive, stable, and prosperous agriculture for the benefit of all the people, farm and urban alike, has been the one objective of the Administration and the Department of Agriculture, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson recently told a rural life conference.

"The basic principle we have tried to follow...was enunciated by Abraham Lincoln," the Secretary stated. "Lincoln said: 'The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all, or cannot so well do for themselves -- in their separate and individual capacities.'....."

MORSE LISTS FUTURE RESEARCH BENEFITS

Pointing out that "the years ahead hold a dependable and profitable future for agriculture," True D. Morse, Under Secretary of Agriculture, recently declared that next year, 1955, will be profitable for efficient farmers.

With a continued increase in efficiency in farming, the Under Secretary stated that the "costs of production will be cut...Farmers are becoming better managers and are rapidly adopting business practices in keeping with commercial farming. Research will continue to lead the way to lower production costs."

Quoting Dr. Byron T. Shaw, Administrator of the Department's Agricultural Research Service, as saying that "there's much that is exciting and different ahead of us," the Under Secretary listed such predictions as these:

In a few years most farmers will be raising meat-type hogs. Pig hatcheries on a large scale may not be too far away.

Test steers are gaining 3 pounds a day, showing that lower-cost beef can be produced.

Every farm flock will be producing 240-250 eggs per hen.

Mating of animals will be done with more certainty--farmers will get a good animal every time.

Crops will be completely engineered--made-to-order.

There will be more hybrid crops and livestock.

Crop and livestock losses from disease, pests, and weeds will be cut--these losses now total 13 billion dollars. This loss is one-third of our potential production.

Air-conditioned barns and livestock shelters may be common in the future.

"It is for such opportunities to increase farming profits--along with less back-breaking toil--that we shall continue to increase the emphasis on agricultural research," Mr. Morse stated.

WE COULD DRINK MORE MILK

Ireland is the leading dairy-products-consuming nation, with a consumption equivalent of 1,382 pounds of milk per person. New Zealand, the prewar leader, is second. The leading consumer of fluid milk is Sweden, with a per capita consumption of 513 pounds. With a per capita consumption of 55 pounds per person, New Zealand is the leading butter-consuming nation. Norway and Switzerland are leading consumers of cheese, says Foreign Agricultural Service.

The United States, the largest milk-producing country in the world, ranks with the leading consuming nations only in fluid milk consumption; the 350 pounds per capita consumption results in a ranking of eighth. Per capita dairy production in the United States in 1953 gained slightly. Consumption of fluid milk was 352 pounds in 1952 compared to 350 pounds in 1953, but it showed a gain of about 20 pounds over prewar use.

ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS FOR 1955 CORN CROP

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that corn acreage allotments will be in effect for the 1955 crop and also designated an 805-county commercial corn-producing area in which allotments will be effective. The 1955 national and county corn acreage allotments will be announced later.

Legislation provides for proclaiming acreage allotments for the commercial corn-producing area each year not later than February 1, unless allotments are dispensed with under the emergency powers of law. Even considering drought conditions in many areas, the apparent corn supply for the coming marketing year is such that acreage allotments are needed in the commercial areas to help maintain a balance between corn production and utilization. Announcement now that corn allotments will be in effect for the 1955 crop will enable producers to make preliminary plans for next year's operations and will also permit more complete preliminary planning for 1955 at county, State, and national levels. (A 46,995,504 acre allotment was in effect for the commercial area in 1954.)

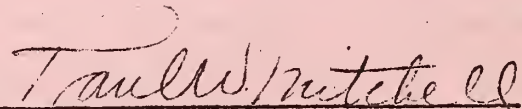
All three Delaware counties are in the commercial corn-producing area. In determining the commercial corn-producing area, counties are selected on the basis of (a) those having an average production of corn (excluding corn used as silage) during the preceding 10 calendar years, after adjustments for abnormal conditions, of 450 bushels or more per farm and 4 bushels or more per acre of farm land in the county, and (b) those bordering on the commercial corn-producing area in which there is a minor civil division which is likely to produce the above amounts of corn for the year.

When corn acreage allotments are in effect, compliance with farm allotments is a condition of eligibility in the commercial corn-producing area for price supports. The law exempts the non-commercial corn area from allotments but provides that when corn acreage allotments are in effect, county loan and purchase agreement rates in the non-commercial area are to be $3/4$ of the rates in the commercial area.

The Agricultural Act of 1954 exempts corn from marketing quotas.

FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

By:


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